



# Men's Retreats

## FBC Estacada, OR

"Mike's challenge from Scripture to us as men was powerful! Reminding us of our freedom in Christ, our victory over sin and our mandate to live purposefully for our King. We saw men over the weekend lay down and confess sin, pursue accountability, and rejoice in the hope and freedom they have as sons of God! Please pray for our perseverance as we walk alongside one another as more than overcomers in Christ Jesus." - Masami Yamamoto, Pastor of Discipleship, FBC Estacada

"Mike was engaging, energetic and purpose driven. Mike connected with the guys through his message. He also spent time with us in conversations and the activities that were occurring. We look forward to partnering with him again." - Brian McGuire



## So the Next Generation Might Know...

There is a great need at this present time in our culture for Christian men to understand God's revelation and His vision for their leadership in His Kingdom. In Psalm 78:1-8, God reveals this vision, calling for His people to listen and incline their ears to His instruction and the words of His mouth, and then to teach the next generation so that they will know and trust in God. This is God's vision that men must embrace: listen to know and teach to make known! Ultimately, knowing is trusting, holding fast, and obeying faithfully.

God explains the importance and the greatness of the vision: "...that the generation to come might know, even the children yet born, that they may arise and tell them to their children, that they should put their confidence in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments, and not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that did not prepare its heart and whose spirit was not faithful to God" (Psalm 78:6-8). To this vision, men are being called, and men are responding!

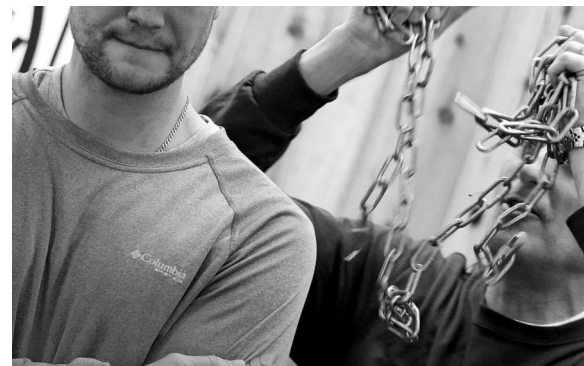
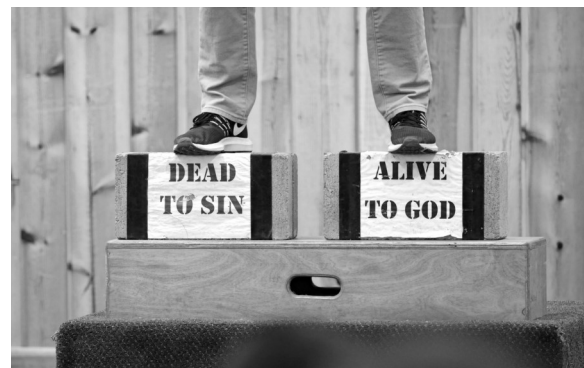
## FBC Estacada, OR (Continued)

"Thanks so much (Mike) for speaking at our retreat (May 3-5) this year! Personally, I don't think I will forget the idea of someone else's life depending on my relationship with God... "Learn this like someone else's life depends on it." I had one of the guys tell me last night that every point hit home for him, and he has been thinking about it ever since. Several guys mentioned that you brought a lot of energy to the retreat, and I was really impressed by how much the men engaged during the discussion time. It was definitely a blessing for everyone who was there! As you know, several of the men there weren't believers, and we also had ten guys sign up to get more information about Covenant Eyes. I'm looking forward to seeing the fruit that will grow from the seeds that were planted this weekend." - Dustin Radford, FBC Estacada, Deacon for Men's Ministry



## Rattling the Chains

Jesus said, "If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed" (Jn. 8:36). But, this freedom is not to live how one wants to live. Paul addressed this in Romans 6. Paul asked, "Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?" (6:1). His simple reply, "May it never be!" (6:2). Paul explained that we are no longer slaves to sin (6:6), and sin is no longer master over us (6:14). The chains have been broken. Therefore, believers are to affirm who they are in Christ Jesus - "dead to sin" and "alive to God" (6:11). They are not to let the tyrant king of sin reign in their mortal bodies (6:12). Nor are they to present the members of their bodies to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but to God as instruments of righteousness (6:13). Freedom in Christ means to "walk in newness of life" (6:4). Satan does not want the children of God to believe this truth. The father of lies rattles the chains of sin's captivity in order to deceive and convince us that we are still in bondage. You are free in Christ! Stand firm in your faith. Affirm who you are in Christ -- Dead to sin! Alive to God! -- and resist the devil. Rise up, men of God.



**"[Mike's] impassioned presentation . . . encouraged [men] to understand how Christ has freed us to live in fellowship with Him."**

## Faith Community - Men's Retreat

On April 11-13, Mike traveled to Washington's coast to spend three days with the men of Faith Community Church in Ocean Shores, Washington, preaching a four session retreat. Mike had the opportunity to share Jesus Christ with one of the men on Thursday evening. They had a great discussion. The next morning after the first session, this man humbly confessed his faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Sr. Pastor Michael

Duncan shared about the retreat, "Mike Thibodeaux delivered a powerful message and brought much more to the 2019 Men's Retreat.... His impassioned presentation inspired our men to develop a deeper life in Christ and encouraged them to understand how Christ has freed us to live in fellowship with Him. As the pastor, I was grateful to have Mike as our Keynote this year and look forward to future ministry partnerships with him."

### Upcoming Ministry | Our Prayer List

- May 22-26 Lozier Lane Baptist Church, Medford, OR - Revival
- June 2 & 9 Open Door Baptist Church, Troutdale, OR - AM Worship
- June 24-28 Lane County Youth for Christ —H.S. Road Trip
- July 15-19 Columbia Basin Baptist Associational Youth Camp

**See website for complete schedule**